

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (previously presented): A light emitting device comprising:

a semiconductor laser chip which emits a laser beam;

a reflective member formed of a fluorescent material which is excited by the laser beam to generate a light beam having a greater wavelength than the laser beam; and a protective plate for covering the semiconductor chip and the reflective member,

wherein the laser beam emitted from the laser chip is reflected by the reflective member and converted into the light beam having the greater wavelength, and the protective plate allows the light beam to pass therethrough and prevents the laser beam from passing therethrough.

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (previously presented): A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the semiconductor laser chip is a chip which emits a purple-blue laser beam, and the fluorescent material is excited by the purple-blue laser beam to generate white light.

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (previously presented): A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the semiconductor laser chip is a laser chip of end light emission type which emits a purple-blue laser beam in two directions parallel to a PN junction plane thereof.

Claim 6 (previously presented): A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the semiconductor laser chip is a laser chip of face light emission type.

Claim 7 (previously presented): A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a positive electrode terminal and a negative electrode terminal for applying a DC voltage to the semiconductor laser chip.

Claim 8 (previously presented): A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a metal block for dissipating heat generated by the semiconductor laser chip.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the semiconductor laser chip comprises at least one of three laser chips which emit red, green and blue light beams, respectively.

Claim 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (previously presented) A light emitting device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the protective plate contains the same material as the florescent material.

Claim 12 (previously presented) A light emitting device as set forth in claim 8, further comprising a package having the protective plate thereon and housing the semiconductor laser chip and the reflective member therein, wherein the metal block passes through the package.

Claim 13 (previously presented) A light emitting device comprising: a semiconductor laser chip which emits a laser beam; a coherence reducing member which receives the laser beam and reduces coherence of the laser beam to generate a lower coherence light beam; and a protective plate for covering the laser chip and the coherence reducing member; wherein the laser beam emitted from the laser chip is converted into the lower coherence light beam by the coherence reducing member, and the protective plate allows the lower coherence light beam to pass therethrough and prevents the laser beam from passing therethrough.

Claim 14 (previously presented) A light emitting device as set forth in claim 13, wherein the coherence reducing member is formed of a fluorescent material which is excited by the laser beam emitted from the semiconductor laser chip to generate the light beam having the greater wavelength than the laser beam.

Claim 15 (previously presented) A light emitting device as set forth in claim 13, wherein the semiconductor laser chip is a chip which emits a purple-blue laser beam, and the coherence

reducing member comprises a fluorescent layer which is excited by the purple-blue laser beam to generate white light.

Claim 16 (previously presented) A light emitting device as set forth in claim 13, wherein the coherence reducing member comprises a reflective member having a reflective surface roughened for reflecting the laser beam incident thereon in an unevenly phase-shifted manner.

Claim 17 (canceled)